

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend claim 1. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i)

1. (Amended) A method of servicing requests for delivery of a media content file in a network of client-server computing systems in which a client computer makes an inquiry to an origin server to locate a media server associated with the origin server which stores the media content file, and wherein a local media cache is located within the network, the method comprising the steps of:

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at the client, requesting delivery of the media content file by requesting from the origin server the delivery of a media redirection file (MRF) containing a redirection object specifying instructions for obtaining the media content file from the media server;

prior to delivery of the media redirection file from the origin server to the client, intercepting the media redirection file at a node on the network between the origin server and client;

rewriting instructions contained in the intercepted media redirection file; and

sending the media redirection file including rewritten instructions to the client so that the media content file is obtained from the local media cache by the client instead of from the media server.

Please add new claims 14-35.

14. (New) A method of servicing requests for delivery of media content in a network of client-server computing systems, the method comprising the steps of:

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transmitting a request from a client to a first server over the network;

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in response to receiving the request, generating a file at the first server, the file including information indicating an address for retrieving media content associated with the request from the client;

sending the file over the network for receipt by the client;

prior to receipt of the file by the client, intercepting the file at a node of the network;

modifying the file at the node of the network; and

forwarding the modified file to the client.

15. (New) A method as in claim 14 further comprising:

processing the file at the client to identify an address associated with retrieving the media content; and

retrieving the media content at the client from a different server than originally intended by the first server.

16. (New) A method as in claim 14, wherein the file is a media redirection file (MRF) including a redirection object specifying instructions for obtaining the media content file from a media server.

17. (New) A method as in claim 14, wherein the file generated by the first server indicates a second server from which the client should retrieve media content and the file is modified to indicate a third server from which the client should retrieve the media content.

18. (New) A method as in claim 17, wherein the third server is a local cache server located at an intermediate node between the client and first server.

19. (New) A method as in claim 14, wherein the media content is retrieved from a local cache server located in a vicinity of the node of the network intercepting the file.

20. (New) A method as in claim 14 further comprising:

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processing the file at the node of the network to determine whether a local media cache server includes the media content being requested by the client; and

retrieving the media content by the client from the local cache media instead of as originally intended by the first server.

21. (New) A method as in claim 20, wherein the server is a local media cache server disposed nearer the client than the originally intended server.
22. (New) A method as in claim 20, modifying an address in the file so that media content is retrieved from a different server than originally intended by the first server generating the file.
23. (New) A method as in claim 14 further comprising:
- determining that a local media cache does not include requested media content;
 - and
 - from the node intercepting the file, forwarding the file to the client so that the client retrieves the media content from a server as originally intended by the first server.
24. (New) A method of servicing requests for delivery of media content in a network of client-server computing systems, the method comprising the steps of:
- at an origin server that generates media redirection files, receiving a request from a client for information related to specific media content;
 - maintaining at least one media cache connected to the network to satisfy the request for media content, the at least one media cache including a copy of the media content that is optionally provided by an alternate media content server;
 - selecting one of the at least one media cache to service the client request;
 - generating a media redirection file to include an address of the selected media cache that will provide data to satisfy the request for media content; and
 - sending the generated media redirection file to the requesting client.

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25. (New) A method as in claim 24, wherein multiple media caches are located at points of presence on the network.
26. (New) A method as in claim 24, wherein the media redirection file is modified based on load balancing for efficient distribution of frequently requested media content.
27. (New) A method as in claim 24 further comprising:
charging a premium for modifying media redirection files.
28. (New) A method as in claim 24 further comprising:
examining the media redirection file;
determining a closest media cache in which the requesting client can access; and
modifying the media redirection file to include a reference to the closest media cache that the requesting client can access.
- 32 29. (New) A method as in claim 24, wherein the media content requested by the client is streaming data information.
30. (New) A method as in claim 24 further comprising:
identifying a media cache located at a point of presence that can satisfy the request for media content; and
modifying the media redirection file to include a reference address to the media cache located at the point of presence to serve requesting client.
31. (New) A method as in claim 24, wherein the origin server is a Domain Name Server (DNS) that resolves domain names to physical addresses.
32. (New) A method as in claim 24, wherein the client requesting information related to the content media transmits messages across the Internet to communicate with the origin server.

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33. (New) A method as in claim 24 further comprising:
examining the media redirection file;
determining a media cache from which the requesting client can access most quickly; and
modifying the media redirection file to include an address to the most quickly accessible media cache.
34. (New) A method as in claim 24, wherein the step of modifying the media redirection file includes modifying an address from which media content will be retrieved.
35. (New) A method as in claim 35 further comprising:
modifying a media redirection file so that the media content is provided by a media cache server that is more easily accessible by the client than the alternate media server.

REMARKS

Previously, claims 1-13 were pending in the present application. Claims 14-35 are being added by way of this Amendment. After entry of this Amendment, claims 1-35 will be pending.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to expedite prosecution of the present application. The submission of these amendments should not be interpreted as acquiescing to the Examiner's rejection.

Applicants are appreciative for the allowance of claim 11.

The following remarks address the rejections of claims 1-10 and 12-13 as set out by Examiner in the Office Action and patentability of newly added claims 14-35.

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